

Syracuse

Feb. 13, 1862

Dear Garrison.

12 I hasten to send you the  
enclosed, which, when you <sup>& H. C. Wright</sup> have  
read it, I wish you would re-  
turn to me. - It has given me  
pain - because, I suppose  
it does really seem to Mr.  
Haughton that you and I  
have abandoned our  
peace principles. And then,  
with other Englishmen, he  
has gotten it into his head  
that the people of the North  
are the aggressors in this  
war - that, if we had  
chosen to be more consid-  
erate of the wishes, if not  
the rights, of our Southern  
brethren - at any rate,  
if we had been more leni-  
ent towards them - we  
might have averted this



horrible catastrophe. ~~Then~~

Moreover, he forgets that very few of our fellow citizens, none of our statesmen excepting Mr. Sumner, have embraced the pacific principles of the Gospel. We are not in the least to blame for this war.

And have we done wrong in wishing that one of the parties in this horrid conflict should be victorious rather than the other; and in doing what we may to ensure the best result? I expect that we shall derive from this war innumerable evidences & illustrations of the folly and wickedness of resorting to deadly weapons to settle a question of right & wrong or even to obtain



to maintain liberty. But  
as our countrymen have  
plunged into a civil war,  
and evidently mean to  
fight it out. I think  
the most pacific men  
may and should do  
all they can to lessen as  
much as possible the  
horror of the conflict,  
and bring it to the  
most desirable ter-  
mination.

I reached home at 2  
P.M. on Monday. I have  
suffered less in con-  
venience than I suffer-  
ended. The next day  
I went five miles out  
of the city and officiated  
at the funeral of a Mr. Burk,



And yesterday officiated  
at the burial of my good  
friend Amos Thorpe. -  
Today I am weak but  
in other respects better.

On the way from Albany  
I had a long and exciting  
conversation <sup>with</sup> a Kentucky  
Union man - but a zeal-  
ous and unscrupulous  
advocate of Slavery. He  
has had his house burnt  
about his ears and all  
his property confiscated.  
Nevertheless he declared  
that, if he suffered this war  
was to lead to the abolition  
of Slavery - he would re-  
nounce the Union, and  
become a seceder -

So much for our Kentucky  
brethren - Love to Helen  
Charlotte & all your family  
Yours truly S. J. May